



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Toshihisa YOKOYAMA, Ken-ichi NODA, Katsuhiro IMAI and

Minoru IMAEDA

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For:

PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING AN OXIDE SINGLE

CRYSTAL

Box Patent Application Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to the Box Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on May 14, 2001 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL742732425US.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please rewrite claims 3, 4, 6, 12, 13, 15 and 19.

3. (Amended) A process for producing an oxide single crystal according to claim 1, wherein said oxide single crystal is cooled by blowing a cooling medium thereto.

4. (Amended) A process for producing an oxide single crystal according to claim 1, wherein said oxide single crystal is drawn from an opening of a nozzle portion provided at a tip of said crucible.